THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) While bidding was going on at Additional Platform No. 23, Ongole on 18-6-92, a few farmers, aggrieved by the prices offered, manhandled the Auction Superintendent.

(b) The tobacco offered for sale on that day was from the areas producing saline tobaccos. The prices offered were comparatively less for such tobaccos. The farmers felt that their tobacco was down graded, which was not true. When the Auction Superintendent tried to explain the situation to the farmers, he was manhandled by some farmers. Consequently, the officers and staff of the Tobacco Board in the platforms in Andhra Pradesh boycotted the auctions from 19-5-92. The auctions were resumed on 23-5-92, after intervention by Chairman, Tobacco Board by holding discussions with the growers, staff members, Association respresentatives etc.

(c) In the meeting, farmers and their representatives assured that such things would not be repeated. Action has also been initiated as per the provisions of the Auction Regulations.

Quantity of F.C.V. Tobacco sold on Auction Platforms in Andhra Pradesh

1136. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total quantity of F.C.V. tobacco sold on auction platforms in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) what is the average price; and

(c) what is the platform-wise details thereof, alongwith the corresponding figures for the previous year?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) The total quantity of F.C.V. Tobacco marketed at on 10-7-92 is 127 M. kgs.

(b) The average price realised as on 10-7-92 is Rs. 27.95 per Kg.

(c) Auction platformwise details are given in the Statement attached. [*See* Appendix CLXIV, 395, Annexure No. 24].

Export order of F.C.V. Tobacco

1137. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of COMMECRE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total export order of tobacco this year;

(b) what is the demand for domestic consumption;

(c) what is the total quanity of F.C.V Tobacco exported so far;

(d) what is the total quantity of F.C.V. tobacco contracted for export; and

(e) what are the prices of export quantity of F.C.V. tobacco for different countries?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) FCV Tobacco export are projected at 55,000 tons in packed weight for the year 1992-93.

(b) Demand for domestic consumption is projected at 81 M.Kgs. in green weight.

(c) 9785 tons till end June, 1992 (packed weight).

(d) As per information available with the Tobacco Board, as on 15-7-92, total quantity contracted for export [including (c) above] is in the region of 25,000 tons.

(e) Unit price realised per Kg. exported to different countries is given below:

Country	Average price per kg (in Rs.) F.O.B.
U.K.	86.85
Belgium	51.58
Germany	71.16
Czechoslovakia	77.07
Russia	65.00
Egypt	80.00
Libya	97.59
Nepal	55.26

Decline in turn over of S.T.C.

1138. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that total turnover of STC has been declining continuously over the past three years; if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) what corrective measures are proposed to be taken to improve the functioning of the S.T.C.; and

(c) what is the manner in which the recent Exim Policy would have an impact on the turnover of STC?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) to (c) Total turnover of STC during the last three years is as under:—

(Rs. Crores)

1989-90	1855
1990-91	1756
1991-92	1314

The decline in STC's turnover is largely because of a sharp decrease in canalised imports and lower counter trade exports as a result of changes effected in the EXIM Policy over the last one year. The STC's turnover in 1991-92 includes about Rs. 567 crores of canalised items, since decanalised.

Subsequently, STC has re-formulated its corporate objectives with a view to becoming an international trading house functioning in a competitive environment principally based on non-canalised trade. Accordingly, performance targets of STC for the current financial year have been fixed at the level of Rs. 1525 crores which are higher than the achieved targets in the previous year.

अमरीका को औषधीय जड़ी-बूटियों का निर्यात

1139. **श्री शिवप्रसाद चनपुरिया** : क्या **वाणिज्य** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) 1990-91 और 1991-92 के वर्षों में अमरीका को भारत से निर्यात की गई औषधीय जड़ी-बूटियों के नाम क्या हैं और इस निर्यात से भारत को कुल कितनी आय हुई ;

(ख) क्या भविष्य में भी अमरीका को इन औषधीय जड़ी-बूटियों का निर्यात करने के लिये अमरीका के साथ किसी व्यापारिक करार पर हस्ताक्षर किये गये हैं ;

(ग) यदि हां, तो किस मूल्य और और आधार पर ;

(घ) क्या 1990-91 और 1991-92 के वर्ष के दौरान अन्य देशों को भी इन औषधीय जड़ी-बूटियों का निर्यात किया गया था ; और

(ङ) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में करार की मुख्य-मुख्य बातें क्या हैं?